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INTELLIGENCE 21

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C 28362

COUNTRY Iran

CIA

SUBJECT The Co-op Position in a Possible Oil Settlement

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Source or Clarifying Statement:

1. "You are familiar with the petroleum cooperatives owned by farmers in this part of the US. This ownership includes more than one thousand oil wells, several of the most modern refineries in the Mid-Continent area and extensive marketing facilities.
2. "Co-op oil associations have been developed in other countries. In some of them the operations are very extensive and in others small. They include most of the countries of Western Europe, Egypt, South Africa and Australia. In 1946 these cooperatives organized the International Cooperative Petroleum Association which has its offices in New York City, and which will soon open an office in London. Its chief function has been to purchase supplies for overseas cooperatives.
3. "ICPA has found it rather difficult to secure satisfactory sources of supply of refined products. Because of this it became interested in the oil of the Middle East, but found most of the companies operating in that area would not supply the co-ops. The Swedish co-ops, however, did take a considerable quantity of products out of Abadan before nationalization.
4. "In the event the Iranian oil industry is reactivated ICPA I am sure would be interested in purchasing its requirements which could be supplied out of that location. The amount ICPA could commit for would be a small percentage at the beginning.
5. "In 1951 we submitted a proposal to help in the solution of the Iranian problem. Briefly, it suggested the ICPA take over the operation of the Iranian properties on

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